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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from Jena

619100

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE PREPARED 1 April 1954

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. In late February 1954, the barracks installation in Jena-Loebstedt (8222) quartered about 1,200 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulettes with artillery, tank or motor transport insignia. A small percentage of the troops wore black-bordered red epaulettes, black-bordered black epaulettes and blue-bordered black epaulettes with engineer and signal insignia. the soldiers wearing black-bordered black and blue-bordered black epaulettes belonged to units stationed in the Polizei Kaserne (8223) and in installation in Jena Forst (8225). The soldiers concerned were said to have been at the installation for training purposes. A headquarters was allegedly also stationed in the Loebstedt installation. Observed were several high-ranking officers, 2 generals, 3 colonels and 3 lieutenant colonels, including Lieutenant Colonel Lezubchenkov (Snu). On 20 February 1954, 5 SU-85s left the installation and returned after a short time.

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2. On the morning of 6 March 1954, a train with about 12 x 100-mm AT guns and 12 prime movers stood at Jena-West railroad station, headed toward Gera.

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3.

On 24 February, the following materiel was loaded at the Saale Railroad Station in Jena: 4 x 122-mm guns, 2 x 76-mm guns, 1 field kitchen, 4 JS-2 tanks and about 35 trucks.

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On 26 February, ammunition boxes measuring 80 x 40 x 20 cm were unloaded from 17 boxcars at the Saale Railroad Station. The boxes were hauled to the advanced airfield at Jagerhagen by trucks.

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4. On 6 March, the barracks installation in Jena-Loebstedt quartered an estimated 1,500 troops who wore tank or artillery insignia. Troops trained with 5 guns of about 76 mm in the barracks yard.

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5. On 6 March, the barracks installation in Jena-Zwaetzen was occupied by about 1,200 troops who wore tank, or artillery insignia. Heavy weapons observed included 3 JU-100s, 4 T-34 tanks and 4 AA guns.

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6. The Forst Kaserne (8225) quartered about 250 soldiers on 6 March. About 200 soldiers wore artillery insignia and about 50 signal insignia. The troops seemed to be very young. The Polizei Kaserne was about 75 percent occupied by an estimated 700 troops.

7. On 8 March, the barracks installation in Loebstedt was occupied by about 2,000 troops who engaged in intensive training activity at the installation.

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8. On 8 March, the barracks installation in Jena-Zwaetzen was occupied by an estimated 500 troops. Vehicles identified in February and early March included armored scout car JS-3 tank SP guns

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9. On 18 February, a column of about 85 trucks fully occupied by troops with full pack passed through Jena toward Kahla. Thirty of the trucks towed small field guns. During the nights between 18 February and 5 March, heavy gun fire was heard from a southwesterly direction. a large-scale exercise had been conducted in the Kahla - Rothenstein - Schorba - Bucha - Magdale area during that period. On 5 March, a unit which had probably participated in the exercise was loaded at the Jena freight station. 4

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1. Comment. components of the 20th Gds Mech Div in Jena. Indications are that the headquarters is stationed in the barracks installation in Loebstedt, the engineer battalion and tank training battalion in the Forst Kaserne and the signal battalion in the Polizei Kaserne.

2. Comment. a unit of the 308th Arty Brig which, presumably, was transferred from Gera to Ohrdruf for firing practice on 26 February.

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3. Comment. a shipment of the 20th Gds Mech Div, presumably to Ohrdruf.

4. Comment. Another exercise of the 205th Gds Mech Div was conducted in the Zeitz area at the same time.

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